

**01270**

**1990/04/13**

ROUTINE

CONFIDENTIAL

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China*

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ACTION: SY 031

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R 131211Z APR 98  
FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4958  
INFO AMEMBASSY BEIJING  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
AMEMBASSY AMMAN  
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

CONFIDENTIAL DAMASCUS 02341

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR  
TAGS: PREL, CH, SY  
SUBJECT: CHINESE AMBASSADOR: MISSILE SALES - A WEAK  
DENIAL, BUT A DENIAL

1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. CHINA'S NEW AMBASSADOR TO SYRIA, ZHANG ZHEN, PAID A COURTESY CALL ON AMBASSADOR APRIL 12. AMBASSADOR REVIEWED THE STATUS OF U.S.-SYRIAN RELATIONS IN SOME DETAIL, EXPLAINING OUR ATTEMPTS TO ENTER INTO A CONSTRUCTIVE DIALOGUE ON A NUMBER OF KEY ISSUES SUCH AS THE PEACE PROCESS, LEBANON AND TERRORISM.

3. AMBASSADOR ALSO REFERRED TO SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN THE WORLD, SUCH AS THE DEVELOPMENTS IN U.S.-SOVIET RELATIONS WHICH ARE ENABLING THE SUPERPOWERS TO ELIMINATE WHOLE CATEGORIES OF MISSILES, AND WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION. HE NOTED THAT THERE APPEARS TO BE PROGRESS IN SEVERAL OTHER AREAS OF THE WORLD TO REDUCE THE POTENTIAL FOR CONFLICT - EXCEPT IN THE MIDDLE EAST. HE NOTED THAT OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS HAVE DISCUSSED THE ISSUE OF MISSILE PROLIFERATION AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL. *ALL*

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DJEREJIAN

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

IS/IPC/CDR 35 Date: OCT 25 1993

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